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only

Confirmation No.: 1763

Group Art Unit: 2818

Examiner: Phuc T. Dang

Atty. Docket No.: 4717-8300

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Sir:

06/02/2005 DBELL1 In response to the Office Action dated May 6, 2005, Applicants respectfully request
01 FC:1201 the entry of the following amendments and comments into the file of this application.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 2.

REMARKS begin on page 6.


No fees are believed to be due for this submission. Should any fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Winston & Strawn LLP Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

oxidations stage to reduce slip lines in the wafer. Since he does not disclose even one additional treatment to reduce surface defects and enhance smoothness, he certainly cannot disclose at least two or more of such steps. The secondary references to Falster and Zhong are each cited as teaching one of these additional steps, but these do not teach using at least two or more of such steps. In contrast, the present specification teaches that the use of an initial rapid thermal annealing step conducted under a pure argon atmosphere smooths the free surface of the wafer and facilitates the additional treatments to remove any remaining surface defects and further enhance the smoothness and surface condition of the wafer. Also, multiple additional treatment steps were previously defined by claims 7-14 and 23-26, claims which have been indicated as being allowable in the current office action. As claim 33 is generic to the combinations of additional treatments disclosed in those claims as well as to other combinations disclosed in the specification, this claim is believed to be patentable.

In view of the above, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, early notification of such would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree, a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues in order to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

May 23, 2005
Date



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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD

Effective December 8, 2004

10/750443

CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)
TOTAL CLAIMS		
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA
TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS	minus 20=	*
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	minus 3 =	*
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT <input type="checkbox"/>		

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT A	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
	5/23/05		
Total	* 26	Minus	** 26 =
Independent	* 4	Minus	*** 3 = 1
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

1, 7, 21, 33

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
Total	*	Minus	** =
Independent	*	Minus	*** =
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT C	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
Total	*	Minus	** =
Independent	*	Minus	*** =
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

SMALL ENTITY TYPE ☐

OR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	
X\$ 25=	
X100=	
+180=	
TOTAL	

RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	
X\$50=	
X200=	
+360=	
TOTAL	

SMALL ENTITY

OR

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$ 25=	
X100=	
+180=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$50=	
X200=	200
+360=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	200

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$ 25=	
X100=	
+180=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$50=	
X200=	
+360=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$ 25=	
X100=	
+180=	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X\$50=	
X200=	
+360=	

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